



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T. Sauter

Attorney Docket No.: KTW0111889

Application No.: 09/145,381

Group Art Unit: 3619

Filed: September 1, 1998

Examiner: H. Phan

Title: VIBRATION DAMPENING SKATE FRAME

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Seattle, Washington 98101

July 9, 2001

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 20 and 24 as follows and cancel Claims 22 and 23 as shown below:

20. (Amended) A skate frame for an in-line skate, the skate having a shoe portion and a plurality of longitudinally aligned wheels capable of traversing a surface, the skate frame comprising:

(a) an elongate carrier frame having first and second sidewalls held in spaced parallel disposition by a first upper wall and an open lower end spaced to receive the wheels therebetween;

(b) an elongate outer shell having first and second sidewalls and an open lower end, the sidewalls of the outer shell being spaced to receive the carrier frame therebetween such that the sidewalls of the outer shell overlap at least a portion of the sidewalls of the carrier frame, the sidewalls of the carrier frame and the outer shell having a predetermined cross sectional shape to permit the sidewalls to flex, thereby absorbing at least a portion of the vibrational energy transmitted from the surface to the shoe portion when the skate traverses the surface; and

LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100